

Message Text

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44

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P 111448Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6157

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS VIENNA 5984

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF, IS, AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR COMMENTS ON MIDDLE EAST AND
ATTITUDES OF ISRAELI POLITICIANS

1. IN INTERVIEW REPRINTED IN JULY ISSUE OF VIENNA
MONTHLY ON JEWISH AFFAIRS, "NEUE WELT," AUSTRIAN
CHANCELLOR KREISKY INDICATED THAT: 1) AUSTRIA HAD NO
ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS ON MIDDLE EAST OTHER THAN
FACILITATIVE ONE VIS-A-VIS PRINCIPALS; 2) STEP-BY-
STEP APPROACH TO NEGOTIATIONS WITH INTERIM AGREEMENTS
WAS NOW MOST REALISTIC APPROACH; 3) DIFFERENT ATTITUDE
OF ISRAELI POLITICIANS WOULD ENHANCE ISRAELI SECURITY; AND
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4) AUSTRIAN DECISION ON POSSIBLE PLO OFFICE AT VIENNA

WOULD AWAIT ACTION ON SIMILAR MATTERS BY OTHERS SUCH AS US, SWEDEN, AND SWITZERLAND. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT HIS ATTITUDE AS PERSON OF JEWISH DESCENT ON MIDDLE EAST ISSUES, CHANCELLOR REPLIED THAT HE HAD NEVER HAD ANY POLITICAL SYMPATHIES FOR ZIONISM BUT FELT MUCH ADMIRATION FOR WHAT WAS BEING ACCOMPLISHED IN ISRAEL AND WANTED ITS EXISTENCE TO BE ASSURED.

2. CHANCELLOR'S REFERENCE TO ATTITUDES OF ISRAELI POLITICIANS WAS MADE IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION OF WHAT MORE HE EXPECTED FROM NEW POLITICAL LEADERS OF ISRAEL THAN FROM "OLD GUARD." CHANCELLOR SAID HE RESPECTED FORMER PM MEIR BUT HE THOUGHT IT WAS NEVERTHELESS TO BE APPRECIATED THAT NEW GENERATION OF POLITICIANS LED ISRAEL. HE THOUGHT THAT PERHAPS THESE NEW LEADERS "WILL BETTER UNDERSTAND THAT THE EXISTANCE OF ISRAEL AS A FREE AND INDEPENDENT COUNTRY WILL BE SAFEGUARDED BEST IF ONE REALIZES THAT ISRAEL LIES IN THE ARAB WORLD." HE SAID ALSO THAT ISRAEL'S RELATIONS WITH ARAB WORLD MUST BE CONSTRUCTIVE, ADDING IN THIS RESPECT THAT IT WAS WORTHWHILE TO REMEMBER THAT "YOUNG PEOPLE IN ARAB COUNTRIES ARE AS INTELLIGENT AS YOUNG PEOPLE EVERYWHERE, AND NOW THAT SOME ARAB COUNTRIES HAVE GROWN RICH, ONE WILL BE SURPRISED TO SEE HOW MUCH TALENT WILL EMERGE FROM OLD CULTURES."

3. FULL TEXT, IN GERMAN, POUCHED DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY TEL AVIV. INTERVIEW, BY AUSTRIAN TV ISRAEL CORRESPONDENT MOSHE MEISELS, APPEARED FIRST IN ISRAELI DAILY, "MAARIV." BUCHANAN

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